(b) and (c) The subject of legislation or a legally enforceable instrument for regulating transfer of genetic material is under active consideration of the Government.

Construction of Kalyan-Ahmednagar Railway Line

1567. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had received a proposal in February 1996, from the Municipal-Corporator of Kalyan for the construction of Kalyan-Ahmednagar Railway line in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the present status of the project; and

(c) the reasons for delay in the implementation thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (c) No such proposal has been received. However, an updating of Traffic Survey for new BG line from Kalyan to Ahmednagar via Murbad (204 kms.), has been included in Budget, 1996-97.

Further consideration of the project will be possible, once the results of the survey become available.

State Forestry Action Plan for Andhra Pradesh

1568. DR. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in conformity with the National Forestry Action Plan a drall State Forestry Action Plan was prepared by the Forest Department of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether a copy of the said action plan was forwarded to the Central Government in 1995;

(c) if so, whether the Central Government have considered the same; and

(d) if so, by when the Central Government are likely to approve the draft and by when the proposal will be implemented in the State of Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAIN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) and (d) State Forestry Action Programme of the Andhra Pradesh is being dovetailed into the National Forestry Action Programme. This is likely to be finalised within 1997 and will be placed before donor agencies and Planning Commission for funding.

Execution of modernisation programme by FACT

1569. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AN FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Limited (FACT) is executing the project of 900 TPD Ammonia Plant, a 900 TPD Sulphuric Acid Plant and a 300 TPD Methanol plant and other modernisation programmes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) to what extent Government have extended the financial assistance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) and (b). Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Limited (FACT) is and setting up a new 900 tonnes per day (TPD) ammonia plant at Udyogamandal at an estimated cost of Rs. 618 crore. The project is scheduled to be commissioned in June/July 1997. Environmental clearance for FACT's proposal for establishing a 900 TDP sulphuric acid plant at Ambalamedu is awaited. The proposal for building a 300 TDP methanol plant at Udyogamandal has not been found economically viable.

(c) The new ammonia project of FACT is being financed through a credit of Japanese Yen 24,482 million from the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) of Japan, which has been routed through the central budget. The benefit of customs duty exemption in respect of the capital goods imported for the project amounts to about Rs. 48 crore.